



COMMON CAUSE AWARDS DINNER



COMMON CAUSE

45 YEARS OF
**EMPOWERING
CITIZENS**

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

6:00PM RECEPTION

7:00PM ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER & CEREMONY

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB

1 West 54th Street at 5th Avenue

New York City

BUSINESS ATTIRE

Honoring

John Gardner Lifetime Achievement Award

JIM SINEGAL

Co-Founder and Former President & CEO, Costco

Common Cause Democracy in Action Award

ZEPHYR TEACHOUT

Author "Corruption in America: From Benjamin Franklin's Snuffbox to Citizens United"

2014 Candidate for Governor of New York

Associate Professor of Law, Fordham University

Common Cause Champion of Democracy Award

CORNELL W. BROOKS

President & CEO, NAACP

Member, Common Cause National Governing Board

**For more information, to order tickets or place a journal ad,
please email celebrate45@commoncause.org or call (212) 691-6506**

USA-000017

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Benefit Co-Chairs

Anne & Sean Coffey, Leo Hindery, Jr., Robin & William Hubbard, Chang Park,
Susan & Frederic Rubinstein, Ruth Zinar

Tribute Committee (in formation)

Tom Bergdall, Betsy Cohn, Alfred G. Goldstein, Adelaide Gomer, Elizabeth Holtzman, Lawrence Hui,
International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers, Stephanie Low, Joel & Susan Mindel,
Craig Newmark, Christy Pennoyer, Robert Pennoyer, PepsiCo, Allison Porter,
Allison and Robert Price, Nancy Wender & Steven Rand, Benjamin & Donna Rosen,
Frederick A.O. Schwarz, Jr., Bradley D. Tilden

Common Cause

Since its founding in 1970 as a "citizens' lobby," Common Cause has been dedicated to strengthening our democracy. With chapters in 35 states and a 45-year legacy of leadership, Common Cause is working at the national, state and local levels to achieve this goal.

- **Media & Democracy.** We have just won a major victory for democracy on the internet, persuading the FCC to preserve "net neutrality" and support expanding municipal broadband networks.
- **Protecting the Right to Vote.** We are working to modernize the way voters register to vote and we continue to champion the Voting Rights Amendment Act to restore protections lost in the *Shelby County v. Holder* decision.
- **Redistricting.** Common Cause recently coordinated national efforts to file amicus briefs supporting independent redistricting for an upcoming Supreme Court case on Arizona.
- **Campaign Finance Reform.** This past year, we passed a small donor matching system for Maryland's largest county as well as for Los Angeles, and advanced a public financing system in Albuquerque.

Common Cause/New York works to advance the goals of our national organization as they relate to specific issues in our state and local governments.

Today we proudly point to our recent accomplishments.

- **Money in Politics.** We sponsored the NYC disclosure bill, signed into law by Mayor DeBlasio, requiring that the top three donors be listed on all political advertising. Working with City Council members and local groups, Common Cause/NY initiated the appointment of a citizen-led committee charged with proposing a plan for public financing of Buffalo's municipal elections.
- **Voting and Election Reform.** Common Cause/NY developed and launched PollWatchUSA, a mobile app that allows voters to report problems at the polls in real time. This year we expanded "Pollwatch" to Long Island, and plan to extend it to other states for the 2016 election.
- **Preserving Public Assets.** We will continue to build our NYCCommons project, which seeks to change the way the public and the city address the preservation and maintenance of public assets such as libraries and parks. We will provide a policy framework and tools for citizens and neighborhoods grappling with these questions.